

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action of March 17, 2004. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-17 and 22-28 are requested.

Election

The Examiner has again required an election between Species A - the continuous rotate mode; and, Species B - the stop and shoot mode.

In the continuous rotate mode, the gantry rotates the detector heads continuously. Although the detector heads rotate continuously, the data acquisition system **30** bins the collected data into regular angular intervals, e.g., 3° intervals. Because the data is collected over 3° of rotation, this data does have a blurring component (page 6, line 33 - page 7, line 1).

In the step and shoot mode, the rotating gantry collects a first data set with the detector heads in one position. After the preselected data acquisition duration, the gantry rotates all three detector heads concurrently a short angular interval, e.g., 3°. In the new location, each of the data heads collects another projection image (page 4, line 34 to page 5, line 5).

The applicants reaffirm their April 16, 2003 election of Species A - the continuous rotate mode.

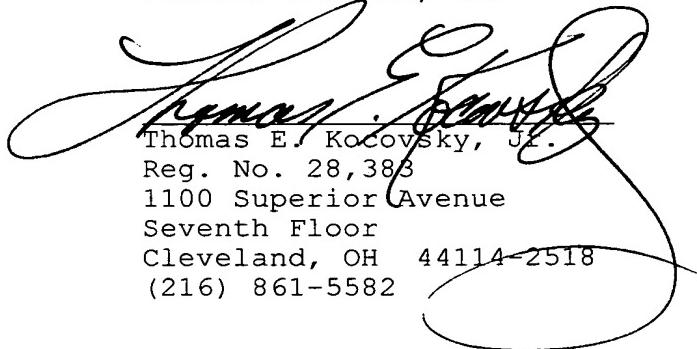
Claims 1-6, 8-14, 16, 17, 22, and 24 are generic. Claims 1-17, 22-25, and 27 read on the elected species.

Claims 26 and 28 are specific to the step and shoot mode of Species B.

An early allowance of all claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this **AMENDMENT D AND RESPONSE** in connection with U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/782,331 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22213-1450 on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2004.

By: Hilary McElroy